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US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



Via Electronic and First-Class Mail

June 12, 2017

Ms. Shari Lynn Kolak
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard, SRF-5J
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**Re: Fourth Annual Progress Report, June 2016 through May 2017
Operable Unit 2 Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study
Lake Calumet Cluster Site, Chicago, Illinois**

Dear Ms. Kolak:

The Respondents submit this annual progress report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region 5, pursuant to Section 8.2 of the Statement of Work attached to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (AOC) for the Operable Unit 2 (OU2) Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the Lake Calumet Cluster Site in Chicago, Illinois (the Site). The effective date of the AOC was June 17, 2013, and this fourth annual progress report summarizes efforts by the Respondents to fulfill the requirements of the AOC during the period from June 2016 through May 2017.

Activities Completed During the Reporting Period

1. The Respondents continue to timely submit monthly progress reports to USEPA with copies to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).
2. On a monthly basis between June 2016 and February 2017, Arcadis U.S., Inc. (Arcadis) gauged groundwater levels at the Phase 1 piezometers. The February 2017 measurements represented the 12th and final monthly gauging event for the Site characterization activities under the revised RI/FS Work Plan.
3. On July 15, 2016, the Respondents submitted the results of the first quarterly (April 2016) groundwater monitoring event to USEPA and IEPA.

4. On July 25, 2016, Arcadis performed hydraulic conductivity testing (“slug tests”) at 12 of the 13 Phase 3 groundwater monitoring wells at the Site. Testing was not conducted at MW-12 because of the observed presence of light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) in that well. Data from the hydraulic conductivity testing were provided to USEPA and IEPA with the October 2016 monthly progress report submitted on November 11, 2016.
5. Between August 8 and August 10, 2016, Arcadis conducted the second round of quarterly sampling at the Phase 3 groundwater monitoring wells.
6. Between October 3 and October 6, 2016, Arcadis conducted the third round of quarterly sampling at the Phase 3 groundwater monitoring wells.
7. On November 4, 2016, the Respondents submitted the data from the August 2016 (second quarter) sampling of the Site groundwater monitoring wells to USEPA and IEPA.
8. On December 1, 2016, Arcadis submitted to USEPA and IEPA a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Addendum to address sampling and analysis of the LNAPL observed at monitoring well MW-12.
9. On December 21 and 28, 2016, Arcadis’ subcontractor cleared the phragmites on the eastern side of the Site as needed to facilitate the planned seep inspection
10. On December 30, 2016, the Respondents submitted the data from the October 2016 (third quarter) sampling of the Site groundwater monitoring wells to USEPA and IEPA.
11. On January 19, 2017, Arcadis conducted an inspection of the eastern side of the Site to identify and sample visible seeps. The results of this investigation were submitted with the February 2017 monthly progress report submitted to USEPA and IEPA on March 14, 2017.
12. On January 26, 2017, Arcadis submitted a revised QAPP Addendum for LNAPL sampling. The QAPP Addendum was revised in response to USEPA comments dated January 4, 2017. The Respondents received USEPA approval of the revised QAPP Addendum on February 8, 2017.
13. Between February 14 and February 16, 2017, Arcadis completed the fourth round of quarterly sampling at the Phase 3 groundwater monitoring wells
14. On March 2, 2017, Arcadis sampled the LNAPL found in monitoring well MW-12.
15. On April 7, 2017, the Respondents submitted the results of the fourth quarter of groundwater sampling of the Phase 3 groundwater monitoring wells to USEPA and IEPA.

16. On May 5, 2017, the Respondents submitted the results of the LNAPL.
17. On May 8, 2017, the solid investigation-derived waste (IDW) produced during Site characterization activities to date was transported from the Site for disposal at the Laraway Recycling and Disposal Facility in Elwood, Illinois.

Progress and Schedule Report

1. On behalf of the Respondents, Arcadis has completed the three phases of RI Site characterization studies as defined in the RI/FS Work Plan, as well as ancillary Site investigation activities (*e.g.*, seep inspection, LNAPL sampling).
2. The schedule date for completing the RI has been extended to accommodate four rounds of quarterly groundwater sampling rather than the one round envisioned in the schedule submitted with the RI/FS Work Plan.
3. Arcadis is compiling and evaluating the Site characterization data, including comparisons of Site groundwater data to appropriate screening criteria. This information will be provided to USEPA and IEPA in a Technical Memorandum that will be the basis for discussions of steps needed to fill remaining data needs and the timing to complete the RI and accompanying human health and ecological risk assessments. As discussed with USEPA, the Respondents propose to submit the Technical Memorandum on or before July 24, 2017.

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We trust that this submittal satisfies your requirements at this time. If you have questions regarding this progress report or related project matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Leo M. Brausch
Project Coordinator

LMB:

cc (via email):

S. M. Franzetti, Esq.
J. Kratzmeyer, Arcadis
P. Lake, IEPA (plus two hard copies)
LCCS Technical Committee